

## **Influenza Reporting and Surveillance in Utah**

### **1. Influenza (identified via culture, DFA, or rapid testing) is a reportable disease in Utah.**

Influenza is a reportable disease due to the possibility of a pandemic outbreak. Reporting assists the Utah Department of Health in tracking the timing, magnitude, and severity of the influenza season. These data are compiled weekly and are available at [www.health.utah.gov/flu](http://www.health.utah.gov/flu)

### **2. Laboratories and clinicians should report all cases of laboratory-identified influenza to their local or state health department within three working days.**

A listing of all local health departments and their phone numbers is available at [www.health.utah.gov/els/epidemiology/lhd\\_contact.htm](http://www.health.utah.gov/els/epidemiology/lhd_contact.htm)

The Utah Department of Health also has a toll-free 24/7-hotline number for public health emergencies: 1.888.EPI.UTAH (374-8824)

### **3. [Influenza Morbidity Report Form](#) (pdf file)**

### **4. Surveillance in Utah**

In addition to tracking laboratory-identified cases, Public Health employs several other methods to track the timing, magnitude, and severity of the influenza season.

A. School districts report absenteeism data on a weekly basis. These numbers are compared with historical data to determine if excess absenteeism is occurring.

B. Sentinel clinics throughout the state track the percentage of patients presenting with “influenza-like illness” on a weekly basis. These numbers are evaluated to assist with the interpretation of

the progress of influenza illness within the community. The weekly surveillance report is available at [www.health.utah.gov/flu](http://www.health.utah.gov/flu).

**Utah Department of Health  
Office of Epidemiology  
October 27, 2004**